Other HLA-Related Activities
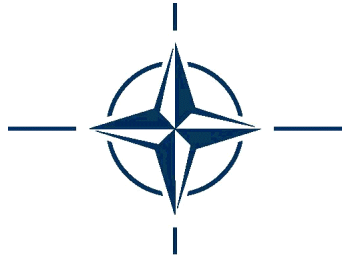
CAPT Jim Hollenbach, DMSO

11 February 1998

Outline

- **JTA Update**
- **NATO Steering Group on M&S**
- **HLA Transition Report to USD(A&T)**

Joint Technical Architecture Update

- Revised draft JTA 2.0 still cooking toward approval in April

- M&S still in as an annex, as before

- Comment resolution from last round underway now
  - no significant M&S issues

- Technical Architecture Steering Group just decided to simplify/ rationalize document by going to a pure hierarchical structure, with no exceptions in the domain annexes

- Implications:
  - Nothing goes in the JTA core unless it is acceptable to all the domains (C4ISR, M&S, Sustainment, Weapons)
  - Domain advocates must justify any objection to nominations for core standards
  - M&S community must do a careful scrub of the JTA core and be prepared to justify any of its objections

NATO Steering Group on M&S Progress to Date

- Agreement that technology is sufficiently mature, time is right

- Agreement on technical standards to foster interoperability & reuse
  - High Level Architecture (HLA) and data interchange standards

- Four iterations of draft Master Plan have achieved agreement on:
  - M&S goals and a requirements baseline
  - current assessment of NATO M&S
  - objectives and implementing actions

- Agreement on the key aspects of NATO M&S policy
  - and increased appreciation of the implementation challenges

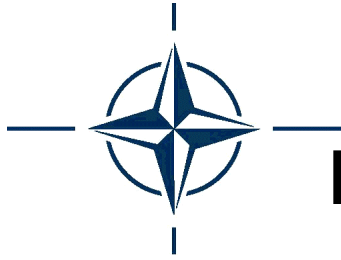- Ready for a "sanity check" from the RTB, MC, and CNAD

Key Aspects of Recommended Policy to Achieve NATO Goals

- **North Atlantic Council should set policy, approve initial Master Plan**

- **Designate a policy-level body to coordinate NATO simulation efforts**
  - **needs participation by all the key stakeholders (users, technologists, application developers)**
  - **would oversee Master Plan implementation & evolution; promote awareness, co-ordination and cost-saving among M&S activities; allocate seed money; sponsor STANAGs; address M&S issues and advise NATO leaders**
  - **Establish a working-level "NATO Simulation Office" (NSO)**
  - **secretariat to the policy-level body and day-to-day focal point for M&S operations & common services; oversee funded projects; liaise with technical agents; co-ordinate with Nations and standard bodies**
  - **Modest funding for NSO and to seed key projects, foster co-operation**

M&S Master Plan Objectives

- **Objective I**   <u>Establish Common Technical Framework</u>
  - foster interoperability and reuse via HLA, data standards

- **Objective II**   <u>Provide Common Services</u>
  - education, library for reusable resources, help desk

- **Objective III**   <u>Develop Simulations</u>
  - emphasize co-operative efforts, reuse, federations (early pathfinder)
  - allocate seed money to foster co-operative, high-priority projects
  - share raw materials (knowledge), conduct proper validation

- **Objective IV**   <u>Employ Simulations</u>
  - planning, resources, database prep, execution, impact assessment

- **Objective V**   <u>Incorporate Technological Advances</u>
  - monitor & conduct technology development, share info, implement

Objective I
Establish a Common Technical Framework to Foster Interoperability and Reuse

Sub-objective 1.1

Adopt the High Level Architecture (HLA) as the NATO standard technical architecture for simulation applications.

Sub-objective 1.2

Establish recommended data interchange standards for M&S applications.

Actions under Sub-Objective 1.1

- **Establish a NATO STANAG for HLA**
- **Advocate NATO needs/issues in the evolution of the HLA standard through participation in SISO standards development process**
- **Conduct education on the HLA**
- **Ensure the availability of supporting software and a means for HLA compliance certification.**
- **Build all new NATO simulations, and live system interfaces to them, in compliance with HLA.**
- **Transition NATO-owned or used legacy simulations to the HLA wherever feasible.**
- **Report and track HLA compliance.**

HLA Transition Report to USD(A&T)
Reporting Process Overview

Report to USD(A&T)

- Restatement of rationale for DoD's HLA Policy
- HLA Transition Progress to Date
  - Transition Issues Team actions, HLA transition support
- Recommended adoption of working definitions for clarification
- HLA Transition Plans of the DoD Components
  - Simulations committed to HLA compliance
  - Recommended waivers, with rationale
  - Planned retirements

Response by USD(A&T)

  - Positive comments on progress, reaffirmation of commitment to HLA, encouragement of industry to follow suit
  - Approval of recommendations in the report

Follow-on administrative procedures

  - DMSO posting of both the report and USD(A&T) response
  - Service communication of waiver approvals to their owners

Tentative Clarifying Definitions

- **Definitions to guide interpretation of the HLA policy memorandum.**
  - "DoD simulation"
  - "simulation projects and programs"
  - "development or modification"
  - "retire"
  - "each simulation the Component owns or sponsors"
  - "mechanism to provide for formal certification of compliance"
- **The simulation definition will tentatively specify that the following systems not considered as such (and so are exempt from the HLA mandate)**
- **The internal components of a simulation, even if it is employed in a distributed manner**
  - Part Task Trainers
  - Stimulators used only for production line quality control or diagnostic testing